In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 and 2 without prejudice, amend claim 3 and add the following claim 13:

Claims 1 to 2.(canceled)

3.(previously presented) A method for upgrading a data stream of multimedia data, said data stream comprising features with a textual description, said textual description comprising a plurality of words, said method comprising including a set of phonetic translation hints in the data stream of the multimedia data in addition to the textual description, and wherein each of said phonetic translation hints comprises a word of the textual description and a ~~specify the~~ phonetic transcription of said word ~~parts or words of the textual description~~, said phonetic transcription determining pronunciation of said word; and

wherein ~~each of said phonetic translation hints in the data stream of the multimedia data that specify~~ said phonetic transcription of said word is valid for ~~at least a portion of~~ said textual description without requiring repetition of said phonetic transcription for each occurrence of said ~~a~~ word, for which the phonetic transcription is given, in said textual description.

4.(previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said phonetic translation hints are embedded in an MPEG data stream associated with textual type descriptors.

2

5.(previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein said MPEG data stream is an MPEG-7 data stream.

6.(previously presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising referring to an alphabet in a predetermined format for representation of phonetic transcription information.

7.(previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said alphabet is an international phonetic alphabet or SAMPA.

8.(previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said phonetic translation hints include a limited number of phonemes.

9.(previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said phonemes are represented with a binary fixed length or variable length code.

10.(previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein coding of said phonemes takes into account statistics of the phonemes.

11.(previously presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising storing said phonetic translation hints in a speech recognition system to better identify corresponding elements of the textual description.

3

12.(previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the phonetic translation hints together with the corresponding elements of the textual description are implemented in text-to-speech interfaces, speech recognition devices, navigation systems, audio broadcast equipment or telephone applications, in which said textual description is used in combination with phonetic information for search or filtering of information.

13.(new) A method of upgrading a data stream of multimedia data, said data stream comprising features with a textual description, said textual description comprising a plurality of words including a repeated word, said method comprising the steps of:

a) specifying at least a part of said textual description in which said repeated word is repeated at least once;

b) providing a phonetic translation hint for said repeated word only once in said data stream, wherein said phonetic translation hint comprises said repeated word and a phonetic transcription of said repeated word, said phonetic transcription defining pronunciation of said repeated word, so that said phonetic translation hint is not repeated in said at least a part of said textual description at each occurrence of said repeated word, for which the phonetic transcription is given; and

c) using said phonetic transcription provided in said phonetic translation hint to define pronunciation of said repeated word at each occurrence of said repeated word in said at least a part of said textual description.

4